

Applic. No. 09/694,569

Amdt. dated October 29, 2003

Reply to Office action of July 29, 2003

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 (currently-amended): A method of aligning a rubber blanket configuration ~~formed with substantially u shaped register cut-outs~~, relative to a clamping device having register pins, for clamping the rubber blanket configuration onto a cylinder, which comprises:

providing the rubber blanket configuration with a clamping bar having substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein; and

bringing the substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed in the ~~rubber blanket configuration~~ clamping bar into contact with the register pins of the clamping device when the clamping device has been applied to the cylinder.

Claim 2 (currently-amended): A rubber blanket configuration, comprising:

a rubber blanket ~~formed of a blanket material, and said rubber blanket~~ having a blanket material and a clamping bar with substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein;

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said blanket material having an upperside layer and an
underside layer; and

said clamping bar being disposed only on said underside layer.

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(Continued)

Claim 3 (currently-amended): The rubber blanket configuration according to claim 2, wherein said clamping bar is disposed only on an underside of ~~the blanket material~~ of said underside layer.

Claim 4 (previously-presented): The rubber blanket configuration according to claim 2, wherein said clamping bar projects beyond an edge of the blanket material.

Claim 5 (previously-presented): The rubber blanket configuration according to claim 4, wherein said edge is a leading edge of the blanket material.

Claim 6 (previously-presented): The rubber blanket configuration according to claim 2, wherein the register cut-outs are formed only in said clamping bar.

Claim 7 (previously-presented): The rubber blanket configuration according to claim 2, including a sealing

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substance provided in at least one corner angle between the blanket material and said clamping bar.

Claim 8 (currently-amended): An assembly, comprising:

a rubber blanket configuration ~~formed of~~ having a blanket material;

said rubber blanket configuration having a clamping bar with substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein; and

a clamping device fastening said rubber blanket configuration to a cylinder, said clamping device ~~only~~ gripping only said clamping bar.

Claim 9 (currently-amended): A register system, comprising:

a flexographic printing plate with substantially u-shaped register cutouts formed therein; and

a rubber blanket configuration having structures defining further substantially u-shaped register cutouts, disposed in the rubber blanket configuration and corresponding to said substantially u-shaped register cutouts of said printing plate.

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Claim 10 (currently-amended): A printing machine, comprising:

a rubber blanket configuration ~~being formed of a blanket material, said rubber blanket configuration including a~~
blanket material and a clamping bar having substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein;

said blanket material having an upperside layer and an underside layer; and

said clamping bar being disposed only on said underside layer.

Claim 11 (currently-amended): A varnishing machine, comprising:

a rubber blanket configuration ~~being formed of a blanket material, said rubber blanket configuration including a~~
blanket material and a clamping bar having substantially u-shaped register cut-outs formed therein;

said blanket material having an upperside layer and an underside layer; and

said clamping bar being disposed only on said underside layer.